



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949

Volume 54 Number 4

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April 2004

Franklin Said..



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WAS ONE OF

AMERICA'S MOST PROLIFIC ADAGE ARTICULATORS.

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The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net**at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net**at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non-holiday Thursday** each month (except July and August) at **Northeast High School,**

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia PA

Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Exams begin and doors closed and locked at **6:30 P.M.**

Sharp! Applicants should call Dusty ND3Q at 215-879-0505 (day) or 215 482 0386 (eve) for the latest information.

Contact Phil-mont:

P.O. Box 88

Abington, PA 19001

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

webmistress Maggie K3XS k3xs@arrl.net

For club information: contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes, and articles that are for the membership e-mail list should be sent to:
wb3koj@comcast.net

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second non-holiday Wednesday** of every month except July and August at **The Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill**

801 Ridge Pike

Lafayette Hill, PA

19444-1799

All visitors are welcome!

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater – Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz & 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

W3AA at Northeast High School –Trustee: WU3I

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia, PA

W3EM – Field Day and special event station

Trustee: W3VVS

President: W3STW

Al Tribble

2848 Carter Rd.

Trevoise PA 19053

wstw@juno.com

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Bill Popovic

343 Lemonte St

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Secretary: NS3K

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PO Box 6002

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Richard A. Moll

roger.mike@verizon.net

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**Micheal P. Taraborrelli
mtarab01@villanova.edu**

Directors: W3BBB(05), N3MT (05), N3XKE (05) WU3I (04), K3XS(04), N3XYZ(04), KB3IV(A)

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Awards: open

Blurb folding:

WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Directory: WB3KOJ

DX: N3MT

Emerg. Coord.: K3HWE

Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: K3XS

Membership: W3LEN

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service: open

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3BBB

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: N3GLU

Youth: N3MT

TVI: W3VVS

VE Program: ND3Q

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

Welcome: K3CJ.



W3AA gets a tower!

One major project for the new W3AA has been the installation of a 72' crankup antenna tower kindly donated by Marilyn Miller (XYL of Irvin Miller K3KNH, long-time PMRC member and now SK).

The big day finally arrived and our expert crew (assisted by a truck and crane) removed the huge tower from its former location and delivered it to the SPARC wing of Northeast High School, where it will be installed when the footing has been prepared.

Thanks to WU3I and N3XKE for photos.





Repeater News

On Sunday, February 22, our Link RLC2-A repeater controller suffered a severe gastric disturbance. Roughly equivalent to a computer crash, all information in the SCRAM was scrambled or lost. All this while I was listening on the phone line. Seldom have I heard so many different squeals, grunts, and groans.

One of my main mistakes, when we first got the controller, was failing to download a backup disc of the controller contents. This little oversight was to cost me many hours of work.

To shorten the story, we had to reinitialize the controller, putting back the manufacturer's default settings. We had added many changes and each of these had to be reentered manually.

Bill Popovic W3AOK was great help with a laptop and much patience 'till I learned how to back-up everything. 30 some pages later, it looked like we were back to normal---hopefully!!!!

Next month you'll hear more of this sad tale and how we are now working to make both the RLC2-A and the RC-85 (spare) controllers as near identical as possible -- at least from the standpoint of user commands. All you computer nerds are laughing about now, I know. But it was a sad day on Troxel Road Sunday, 2/22/03. Fortunately, no serious damage was done except to my ego. I am now a much subdued version of the patriarch..

W3BBB



We are sorry to report the passing of Charlie Stouth W3ZPP, 84 a long time member of Philmont Mobile Radio Club on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2004.

As a member, he was active for many years in most Philmont activities. He was an active member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Chapters 166 & 31.

During World War II, Charlie volunteered and served on the submarine USS Jack as a sonar operator in the South China and Yellow Seas. He retired from the Planning Department at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard 1973.

Thanks to Allen Bubeck (K3GNM)

Emergency Service

Don Gordon recently EMailled an article titled "Hospitals Turn to Shortwave Radio", by SEAN O'SULLIVAN, of Delawareonline.

The article concerns preparation for potential terrorist threats and other emergencies by a group of Hams involved with Christiana Care and Wilmington Hospitals in Delaware. I found the article very interesting and descriptive of an organization well structured and implementing a workable plan. I was so impressed with what I had read, I immediately got in touch with some of the principals mentioned in the article and have confirmed a presentation on their program scheduled to be made at our Phil-Mont

meeting in May.

John DiGiovanni, N3LUD (former vintage 90s Phil-Monter, one of the twins), a Christiana Care employee, and Christiana ARES Emergency Coordinator proposed they install the system. John has agreed to come to our Phil-Mont meeting to discuss their program.

They do have an excellent web site: <http://hamradio.christianacare.org/> for your perusal. They run a weekly net on 146.730 PL131.8 Tuesday eves at 8:00PM local time. Their 146.730 repeater is graciously provided by the cooperation of the Delaware Repeater Association.

ALSO, on a continuing note concerning the ARRL Emergency Courses discussed in last months BLURB, be aware that the fees

charged for many of the courses are reimbursed upon successful completion of the course. I did receive a check in the mail, with a real nice certificate and wallet ID card from the ARRL for the Level 1 EC course a couple of weeks after completion. Take a look over the ARRL site

<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.htm>
1. When you click into the registration methods, please read each class listing carefully. ARRL members who reside in the U.S. should select a reimbursable CNCS- or UTC-subsidized class.

Amateurs who do not qualify for either of those options may choose to register for an open-enrollment class at their own expense if and when one is available. Anyone with questions concerning the process may contact me for my experience in signing up for a course.

73, Larry, K3HWE
Larry.Stevenson@verizon.net

Ask Ted: Windows Tips ...and other stuff

Before we get into the tips, be careful about opening zip files from an e-mail attachment. If you did not ask the sender for the file do not open it. ZIP files can carry worms. NASTY Stuff.

1 If you're the only user, having to press Cancel every time your computer starts is a real pain. Go to Start, Settings, and Control Panel and open the Passwords icon. Then click the Change Passwords tab and click the Change Windows Password button.

Make sure all three fields are completely blank and click the OK

button to save changes
And or right click on network neighborhood, properties, about half way down the dialog box there is a pull down "primary windows logon" select windows logon. Re-boot the system should not ask for a logon. There are a few builds of 9x one of the above should work on your system

2 Files that give you an access error when trying to delete them can be deleted, (warning: be very careful here). Place system in the safe mode then simply delete the file.

3 If you have a lot of windows open and they are related (that is you open them in series) use shift alt F4 keys and all windows will close.

4 If you don't want a deleted file to go to the recycle bin hold the shift key down while pressing the delete key and the file will delete permanently (will work in all office apps).

5 IE 6 has a neat feature if you type the url name only I.E. "Microsoft" in the address line and then hold ctrl and press enter it will add the http:// and the . com.

7 Windows 9x systems need to be "cleaned up" at least once a month, find the c:\windows\temp folder and delete its contents.

8 Change your color setting to 16 Bit instead in 32 bit the system will run faster (graphics)

9 Don't leave a cd or floppy in the drive, when accessing my computer the system will read the floppy and or cd?. This can take a loooong time.

10 Clean Boot is a feature in Windows 98 se, ME and XP that allows you to identify and rectify elements in your Windows startup that are causing your system to slow down or crash. Clean Boot allows you to selectively choose or eliminate functions in Windows so that you can isolate the troubling element.

To do a Clean Boot, Go to the Start menu and select Run. Now type MSCONFIG and click OK. The MSConfig screen will come up with all kinds of options. In the General tab, choose Selective Startup. On the same screen, click each one of the checked boxes to clear them, click the Startup tab, and select the Statemgr check box. Click OK and allow your computer to reboot when prompted. Go back into MSCONFIG using the same method as above. Make sure that all of the formerly unchecked boxes are still unchecked. (Sometimes, third-party products will automatically refill this value. If that happens, you'll need to contact the vendor.) Now, one at a time, check a box, then reboot. When your system slows down again after a reboot, you'll know where the problem is. To undo your clean boot procedure, in the MSConfig General tab, select Normal Boot and you're back to your regular system.

Note: This is a general tip there will be differences between this and some systems.

11 How to shutdown your 9x computer from a desktop icon.
Step 1. Right-click on your desktop for context window and select New; then click on Shortcut.
Step 2. Type the following line in the Command line space:

To Shut Down:

C:\WINDOWS\RUNDLL32.EXE
shell32,SHExitWindowsEx 1

To Log Off:

C:\WINDOWS\RUNDLL32.EXE
shell32,SHExitWindowsEx 0

To Restart:

C:\WINDOWS\RUNDLL32.EXE
shell32,SHExitWindowsEx 2

Note: two spaces in the command lines: The first between EXE and shell32, and the second between Ex and the numeral. (To use all three commands you will need three separate icons on the desktop.)
Step 3. Click on Next and type Shutdown, in place of Rundll.
Step 4. Click on Finish and an Icon will appear on the desktop labeled Shutdown.

Step 5. Double click on this Icon to shutdown/log off/ restart your computer.

Have you wondering what's going on behind the Windows 9x logo while it's booting? Simply hit ESC key while Windows is booting to see behind the scene actions. You may want to use this feature if you're loading programs during the startup or trying to trace boot-up errors

12 A quick way to the dos command window, press start, select run, type cmd enter.

13 Do you still have dialup and get disconnected frequently? Try this: Start ,Settings ,Control Panel , Modems Modems select Properties, select the Connection Tab, click the Advanced button In the Extra settings dialogue box, enter S10=50

This will force the modem to stay connected without a carrier, up to 5 seconds. (50 * 1 tenth of a second or 5 seconds)

Make sure the call waiting is off. (*70)

14 Does the new Windows XP Start menu take up too much space on your desktop? You can easily change the look back to the Windows Classic Start menu

Right click the Start button, then click Properties.
Click on Classic Start menu.
Click the Customize button to select items to display on the Start menu.
By default, selecting the Classic Start menu also adds the My Documents, My Computer, My Network Places, and Internet Explorer icons to your desktop.

15 When installing programs you often get told in the end of the installation that it will have to reboot, which will lead to it booting from scratch. Instead choose "No" to the question about rebooting, and press the Start Button, and select "Shutdown", and select "Restart Windows", and while holding the Shift-key down press "Ok".

16 To stop a CD from Autoloading hold the shift key down and then load the cd (hold until cd stops blinking)

17 Hold the ctrl key down and move the scroll key on mouse to enlarge text on a WEB page
Find Files or Folders-I've stopped being surprised by how many users can't find files on their computer. Many need to open the application that created the file and hope that they can locate it. To use Windows Explorer to move, delete, or copy files is foreign to them. There is a straightforward method to find files or folders and then delete, move, copy, etc. Press the F3 key (on desktop) or if you are working in an application press Windows Key + F. This will start the find/search windows dialog box.

19 Keyboard shortcuts for left-handed users though it may seem at times as if the world was designed with only right-handed people in mind, Windows has a few keyboard shortcuts designed for the lefties. Lefties definitely find it cumbersome to use the Cut, Copy, and Paste keyboard shortcuts. [Ctrl]X, [Ctrl]C and [Ctrl]V are

2004 DIRECTORY FORMAT CHANGE

Please note the addition of cell phone numbers in the work/cell column of the new directory. Those who have an e-mail address were asked if they would like to have their cell phone listed (cp). Since this was a very last minute change, there was no time to notify those members who have not provided an e-mail address.

If you would like to have your cell phone (either cell or work phone-not both) listed in future supplements and annual directories please send me the information: Don Gordon-WB3KOJ, 641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115 or ***Wb3koj@comcast.net***

only accessible if you're using your left hand, but since lefties are using their left hand on the mouse, Windows has also created these handy shortcuts on the right side of the keyboard.

For Left-Handers

Cut : [Shift][Delete]

Copy : [Ctrl][Insert]

Paste : [Shift][Insert]

Undo : [Alt][Backspace]

Unfortunately, not all applications work with these shortcuts. Do some experimenting to find out whether your applications include these shortcuts for lefties.

Spread the word...

For me, this month's PMRC general meeting was a most enjoyable event. It was well attended, the pizza and beverages were a treat to the palate and handsomely made sweat shirts were given away during a question and answer session all sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society in recognition for the efforts expended by Amateur Radio Operators participating in the 2004 MS 150 Bike Tour.

A quick check of the 2002 PMRC Directory shows a dozen PMRC Members listed as Volunteer Control Operators for W3AA therefore, I am looking for one or two of you, with a valid FCC license, to commit to manning Amateur Radio station W3AA and supervising the students that would be operating W3YC during school hours.

Currently Steve (WU3I) and I open the station Monday through Thursday. Admittance to the area is

as simple as calling on the Club repeater and announcing your intent to visit and the control operator at the station will respond.

If you participate, you enjoy all Holidays and have the summer off with the same pay.

I want to keep the BPL controversy in front of you so that when I ask for more of your membership dollars to help the ARRL battle the FCC you'll give me the thumbs up, then again I just feel like giving up.

As you may know FCC Chairman Powell has stated the FCC would not let BPL interfere with critical services. The Raleigh News & Observer reported "The question is whether it does and to what extent and what limits can be put on BPL to make sure it doesn't".

Powell said "we've been fully committed to only allowing things within the range of what we're convinced won't create impermissible interference". After a statement like that why worry?

I'll tell you why: Powell also says if BPL can provide broadband access anywhere there's a power outlet "we're not going to be easily dissuaded from doing something that has that much potential". Wow!

--73 AL W3STW.

PMRC Board of Directors Meeting March 4

Al Tribble, W3STW called the meeting to order at 7:56 pm. Attending the February BOD



213th Monthly Phil-Mont

VE Exam Session Statistics March 4, 2004

Four candidates took six elements, and we had three upgrades. The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads **ND3Q**, and the other participating VEs were :

Bob Freer W3YLT,
Pete Butler WB2B,
Jim McCloskey NS3K.

Upcoming Exam Sessions:
April 1, May 6, June 3

(See page 2 for details)

meeting were as follows: Erik N3YXZ, Mike N3MT, Al W3STW, Maggie K3XS, Steve WU3I, Dick W3RM, Ed KB3IV, Jim W3BBB and Jim NS3K.

Dick, W3RM gave the Treasury's report and so far so good. Dues are still due and coming in. Maggie, K3XS is still looking for any material to be sent her way. Dick proposed that a welcome message be put in the Blurb for new members. This would appear in the very first Blurb they receive. Mike, N3MT the DX chairman reported that 80 meters was active and the ARRL SSB contest was coming up.

Ed, KB3IV stated that the latest net control formats are available for download from the webpage. All

net control operators should make sure they have the most current version. The HF nets could use more check-ins. Take the time and turn on those transceivers.

Steve, WU3I reported that planning was in place to relocate the tower that was donated to the school district for the club station at W3AA. A company was hired to move the tower and plenty of pictures will be taken. A motion was made to authorize payment for the tower removal. All but one director was in favor. The motion passed. Steve also reported that he will be able to assist Al with the classes at NE High School starting on March 15th.

Jim, W3BBB that the offsite at Broomall should be up soon. We are just waiting for some good weather.

A motion was made to accept W3GER's membership into Philmont. WU3I seconded the motion. Welcome aboard to Gerald Cechony.

With no new business to discuss the meeting was closed at 9:10 pm.

Till next month, 73 NS3K

PMRC March Meeting

Philmont President, Al Tribble called the meeting to order at 7:57 pm.

Dick, W3RM gave the Treasury report. Club dues are passed due as of February 29, 2004. He also reported that a new application for membership was received from WX3I.

Maggie, the Blurb editor, is also

looking for material for the Blurb. If you want to submit something let her know. Club members can also list ads or announcements in the Blurb

Carmen, KE3QB the Field Day chairman announced that Field day shirts and pins are available. The shirts are \$12.95 and the pins are \$5.00. Please inform him if you want either of these items. Also let him know if you are going to attend Field day this year.

Steve, WU3I reported that the tower is now at W3AA. The move took place on March 9th. The foundation should be poured soon. Pictures will be up coming in the Blurb.

A couple of visitors were introduced, Ted, N3UP and Ron, N3TLQ.

Dusty ND3Q gave the VE report. The next exam session will be on

April 1st. No fooling.

Steve, KB2RTZ won the 50-50 drawing.

Charlie, W3WF then introduced Megan DiPanni and Jennifer Taylor from the MS Society who thanked the Amateur community and Philmont for their service in the various MS events. We in turn were thankful for the pizza that was provided by the MS Society. Ten year service plaques as well as certificates were distributed.

If you can help out in any of the upcoming MS events, please see or get in touch with Charlie. Your help is always needed and appreciated. The meeting was ended at 8:39 pm. Everyone went home with a full stomach

Till next month, 73 de NS3K



April Birthdays

05 Rob Moore – N2RM
 07 Laura Giacchi – KB3LRA
 David Staples – KB3HIU
 08 Jackie Chedeville (XYL W3GQD)
 15 Joan Clifford (XYL W3UY)
 18 Patricia Sullivan (XYL N3QMH)
 28 Gwen Patton – NG3P
 30 Al Kaufmann – K3ZMJ*

*New member 2004

MEMBERSHIP STATS
 At press time P.M.R.C. has:
99 FULL PAID MEMBERS
8 FAMILY MEMBERS
1 YOUTH
1 HONORARY MEMBERS
2 PENDING MEMBERS

Proposed new member:

Theodore D. Mills "Ted" N3UP (extra)
 8 Tuscany Road Aston, PA 19014-1332
 h: 610-494-6624
 w: 610-608-6492
 Occupation: Transportation Manager
 Email Address: N3UP@arrl.net
 Committee s: Repeater & Tech; VE

Welcome to our new members!

**David Spangler W3DSS
Gerald Cechony W3GER**

Remember, new Phil-Monters are
always invited to submit
introductions or bios for
publication in the Blurb so we can
get to know you.

Date	April 2004 with PMRC
Thu 01	
Fri 02	
Sat 03	
Sun 04	NCS 2m and HF W3YXZ
Mon 05	
Tue 06	
Wed 07	PMRC Board Meeting at WRDV
Thu 08	VE Exams at Northeast High School – see p2
Fri 09	
Sat 10	
Sun 11	Easter Sunday – NCS 2m:N3OWM HF:WA3KIO
Mon 12	
Tue 13	
Wed 14	PMRC General Meeting – see p2
Thu 15	
Fri 16	
Sat 17	
Sun 18	NCS: 2m and HF: KB3IV
Mon 19	
Tue 20	
Wed 21	
Thu 22	
Fri 23	
Sat 24	
Sun 25	NCS: 2M:N3FTY HF:W3STW
Mon 26	
Tue 27	
Wed 28	
Thu 29	
Fri 30	

First Class Mail

**The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115**

The Blurb